

Date: August 6, 2012

Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Ave NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268

Reference PRC Docket MC2012-26

Dear Commissioners,

I am the franchisee/owner of The UPS Store 1643 in Port Huron, MI 48060. I employ nine people from our community. I am writing to ask that you disallow the United States Post Office's "enhanced" services to Post Office Box customers, specifically:

1. Acceptance of third-party parcels and other items from UPS, FedEx, DHL and other non-USPS carriers, a practice that has been prohibited for many years.
2. The new ability to use the street address of the Post Office where the Post Office Box is located, rather than the conventional "PO Box 123, Anytown, MA 01234."
3. The new ability of Post Office Box customers to use the number "123" designation instead of the conventional "PO Box 123" form of address.
4. E-mail/text message notification to PO Box customers of items received. ("Real Mail Notification")

These new business practices place the United States Postal Service in direct and unequal competition with thousands of small businesses across the country. For most store owners like me, our businesses are privately owned and represent the sole source of our income. This new form of competition from the USPS will result in significant loss of revenue and damage to my business. The UPS Store, Port Huron Michigan is a store that is highly dependant on the income from its mail box service and could potentially not be able to survive the post offices assault on this business.

As a Commercial Mail Receiving Agency (CMRA), our business is regulated and inspected by the USPS. There is no other enterprise in our society where one competitor can regulate another, even to the point of requiring then to turn over their customer list on a quarterly basis.

As a CMRA, we operate under other unfair rules, such as the ability of a postal customer to change their address from a PO Box to another address with a simple "Change of Address" form, while customers of a CMRA such as my store are prohibited from doing so. When a CMRA mailbox customer moves, we are required by the USPS to receive the customer's mail for six months following termination and cannot re-mail it without paying for new postage.

As noted in PRC Order No. 1366, "the Postal Service has not submitted an appropriate filing that describes the nature and implementing rules for these enhanced services." The USPS failed to follow the rules in rolling out these new services, and made a unilateral decision and executed it without the necessary filings. A financially viable Post Office is an important part of our business, but not at our expense. A relationship with the USPS is a careful balance of competition and support, and in this instance they have tipped the scales.

I might add that in Port Huron, Michigan the post office will lose money on this idea of parcel receiving. They are charging under the expense it will cost in labor to receive parcels and log them in. This is a Canadian border town and the number of parcels received is tremendous. The post office is charging so little for the mail box service that this will add to their debt.

Thank you for your time and kind attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Judith Redmond
The UPS Store 1643
3560 Pine Grove Ave
Port Huron, MI 48060
Telephone: 810-985-3400
FAX: 810-985-3402
Store1643@theupsstore.com